

REMARKS

Claim 1 is in the case and presented for reconsideration. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 has been amended in order to more particularly point out the Applicant's claimed invention, namely, a method for performing a medical procedure comprising providing a catheter having at least one position sensor for generating or receiving signals for use in determining position information of a portion of the catheter in a heart of a subject; recording geometric information at a plurality of time points in a plurality of cardiac cycles of the heart of the subject using the at least one position sensor of the catheter; subsequently detecting a transient event produced at a location on the heart during a cardiac cycle; identifying a time of occurrence of the transient event in the cardiac cycle during which the transient event occurred; and displaying a map of the heart responsive to the identified time of occurrence and the geometric information recorded at a time point in the cardiac cycle that corresponds to the time of occurrence of the transient event. The support for this Amendment can be found in the Applicant's Specification, for example, Page 11, Line 19 – Page 12, Line 27.

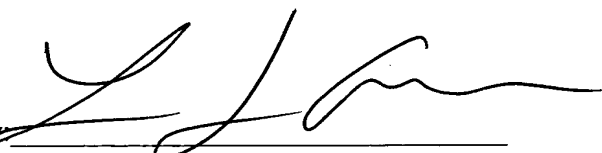
Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,414,981 (Wong et al.). It is important to note that Wong et al. teaches an electrocardiograph computer display system that is only capable of displaying a sequence of ECG signals taken from a data recording in which the operator or a computer switches the display from a time moving SCAN mode to a time stationary mode of viewing segments of ECG data. Column 4, Lines 8-13. Additionally, these signals are presented seriatim and superimposed upon each other to form a visual AVSEP and the signal is also used to generate a signal of R to R intervals which are stored in an arrhythmigraph memory. Column 4, Lines 22-27. Moreover, it is important to note that these signals are merely displayed in rudimentary form as specifically taught by this reference in Column 4, Lines 27-28 as follows:

“These signals are played back as a bar graph or peak mode's signal against an arbitrary time base.”

Contrary to the Examiner's interpretation of this reference, the tape transport feature of the Wong et al. system is only used for rapid scanning of ECG recordings and is not in anyway used or related to obtaining or recording geometric information at a plurality of time points in a plurality of cardiac cycles of the heart. Additionally, it is clear that Wong et al. fails to teach or suggest the combination of method steps of the Applicant's claimed invention as originally presented. Moreover, it is clear that Wong et al. neither describes nor suggests Applicant's claimed invention of Claim 1 as amended. For example, Wong et al. neither teaches, suggests or even infers using a catheter having at least one position sensor for generating or receiving signals for use in determining position information of a portion of the catheter in the heart as well as recording geometric information at a plurality of points in a plurality of cardiac cycles of the heart using the at least one position sensor, subsequently detecting a transient event produced at a location in the heart during a cardiac cycle, identifying a time occurrence of the transient event in the cardiac site during which the transient event occurred, and displaying a map of the heart responsive to the identified time of occurrence and the geometric information recorded at a time point in the cardiac cycle that corresponds to the time of occurrence of the transient event.

Therefore, by this Amendment and for the reasons outlined above, the Applicant's claimed present invention is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious by this reference and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Louis J. Capezzuto
Reg. No. 37,107

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(732) 524-2218
Dated: May 11, 2005